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Congress To-Day.

SENATE.—Mr. SEWARD presented a petition from the Industrial Congress, praying for a change in the policy of the United States with regard to foreign nations.

The joint resolution making land warrants assignable was referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

The Senate then resumed the consideration of Mr. FORT's resolution declaring the Compromise Measures a definitive settlement of the slavery question.

Mr. FORT read from a former speech of Mr. RUMFORD extracts showing that Senator was a Secessionist as early as 1852.

Mr. RUMFORD acknowledged that he was a secessionist now, and it did not matter at what time he became such.

Mr. HUSTON, who was about to take the floor, yielded it to

Mr. FORT, who entered into explanations as to remarks made by Mr. RUMFORD, in the course of which Mr. FORT said that the secessionists, and the abolitionists at Syracuse, were perfectly agreed as to the right of a State to secede, to the opposition to the fugitive-slave law as unconstitutional, and were adverse to the settlement of the Texas boundary question.

Mr. RUMFORD said he had never heard of the abolitionists being in favor of secession.

Mr. FORT said that doctrine was avowed by the Syracuse Convention, and that it was well that the Senator should know in what company he had been found. [Laughter.]

After further remarks by both gentlemen,

Mr. HUSTON arose and said that he would prefer addressing the Senate during the morning hour.

On motion, the Senate went into Executive session, and after some time spent therein, the doors were opened and the Senate adjourned.

The Affair of the Promethes.

"Quousque tandem abutere patientia nostra?" What long humiliation awaits us? What lower degree of degradation has the present British head of the American Department of State in hand for the American people?

The Monroe doctrine, which declared that the United States would not permit the European powers to oppress or control the destinies of American nations, has been abandoned. Cuba has been quietly surrendered to the joint intervention of Great Britain and France. The case of the Dominican republic is still worse. There the United States Government has intervened, jointly with Great Britain and France, to force these struggling republicans to submit to the policy of the black Emperor Soutouque, which forbids any white person to put a foot on the island as owner and proprietor. If we look to Mexico, we find that the Department of State has league with the British government, to force her, by the threat of a British blockade, to accept from the British bankers employed by Mr. Webster to pay the indemnity, in lieu of the gold and silver which the United States agreed by the treaty of Guadalupe to pay for California and New Mexico, depreciated Mexican bonds, which those bankers have bought up at between twenty and thirty cents in the dollar.

Now we have a British man-of-war firing into the Promethes for refusing to pay illegal tribute to her Britannic Majesty's government at Greytown. And what does our British Secretary of State do? He sends down the steamer Saranac to assure the local authorities of the 'port that the United States will not justify the 'non-payment of any lawful and proper port duties on the part of their merchant vessels, and that they desire the most friendly relations with the government of Central America, and will faithfully maintain on their part the stipulations of the treaty already referred to."

Now, this demand for port charges, by the British authorities at Greytown, is an impudent violation of the treaty referred to, and the instructions above quoted amount to a disgraceful acquiescence in the impudent pretensions of Great Britain in violation of the treaty.

We are unwilling to believe that the Secretary of the Navy is responsible for this, or that he was any thing more than the mere official channel for transmitting to the Commodore the instructions of the Secretary of State, whose British proclivities sufficiently account for it.

Why does Kossuth assume to be Governor of Hungary?

The effort making by Kossuth to array the people of the United States in a crusade against Russia, and the success attending his efforts in New York, have had no parallels in modern times. He assumes to be the governor of Hungary, that as such he may be considered the representative of the principle asserted by Hungary in her struggle for liberty, and that he may enforce his doctrine that, as a republic, we are bound to make common cause with the revolutionary partisans of republicanism in Europe. Kossuth assumes, also, that, because we interposed to release him from Turkish captivity, we are therefore bound to consider and treat him as our guest. It is the policy of kings, the partisans of dynasties, to protect and support exiled monarchs. Kossuth would establish the principle, that because we have tendered him and his companions an asylum, we must there support them. What claim has he or his followers to be supported at the public expense? Will not his case be made a precedent, under which all who are driven from Europe for revolutionary offences, may claim to be placed on our pension list? How can we discriminate in his favor? Is it because he assumes to be the governor of Hungary? The following documents, which are reproduced by a writer in the New York Journal of Commerce, show that he is not governor; and a reference to the resolution of Congress of last session will prove that it was not the purpose of Congress to make him our guest, but to offer him an asylum. Why, then, does he assume to be the governor of Hungary, which he is not? and why does he assume to be a national guest, which he is not?

"Kossuth to the Nation."

"After the unfortunate battles wherewith God in these latter days has visited our people, we have no hope of our successful continuance of the defense against the allied forces of Russia and Austria. Under such circumstances, the salvation of the nation exists in the hands of the leaders of the army. It is my firm conviction that the continuance of the present government would not only prove useless, but also injurious to the nation. Acting upon this conviction, I proclaim that, moved by those patriotic feelings which throughout the course of my life have impelled me to devote all my thoughts to the country, I, and with me the whole of the Cabinet, resign the guidance of the public affairs, and that the supreme civil and military power is herewith conferred on the General Arthur Gorgey, until the nation, making use of its rights, shall have disposed that power according to its will. I expect of the said General Gorgey, and I make him responsible to God, the nation, and to history, that, according to the best of his ability, he will use this supreme power for the salvation of the national and political independence of our poor country, and of its future. May he love his country with that disinterested love which I bear it. May his endeavors to reconquer the independence and happiness of the nation be crowned with greater success than mine were."

"I have it no longer in my power to assist the country by actions. If my death can benefit it, I will gladly sacrifice my life. May the God of Justice and of Mercy watch over my poor people!"

"LOUIS KOSSUTH, Governor."

"BARTHOLOMEW SEMMERS, "S. VICKOVICH, "C. CHANTY, "M. HORVATH."

In a letter to Gen. Bem, dated Teregovia, August 14, 1849, he says:

"I cannot resign on one day and claim the power of the government on the other. If the nation and the army were to will it otherwise, things would of course take another turn; but then Gorgey's army, the bravest of all our corps, ought to assist. Unless this be done, I am simply a citizen, and I will never consent to give the assistance even of my presence to measures of terrorism, to destruction and robbery, to requisitions and oppressions. If Gorgey's army, too, were to call me back to the government; if you were to succeed in some operations tending to ensure the provisioning of your troops without violent measures against the people; if the Bank could be brought to work, and if it stood at my disposal, then, indeed, you would find me willing on the nation's demand to resume the duties of office; but unless those things are done, there is no office for me."

"I remain, with great respect,

KOSSUTH."

Kossuth, Joint Intervention, and the Monroe Doctrine.

"B," a correspondent of the National Intelligencer, says:

"I regret very much that the resolution passed at the last session has a place on our statute book. It was, I think, a hasty measure, adopted without much reflection. The consequences have been injurious. Were it not for that governmental act, unwarranted by the constitution or by precedent, the Kossuth fever would have subsided into a calm and cordial feeling for an oppressed exile, and a generous attention to his circumstances. There may be danger now that the nation may be led into a great political error, by abandoning virtually the principle of 'non-intervention.'"

"As regards the action of the Government in the reception and treatment of M. Kossuth, I am very willing that it should be left to the prudence and patriotism of the President. He has my entire confidence. Neither do I believe that Mr. Webster will recommend any governmental demonstration. He is too experienced a statesman to allow the ship of State to be exposed to the dangers of excitement and sympathy. I am sure he will never let go the great sheet-anchor of our political safety—non-intervention."

The Intelligencer's correspondent seems to be ignorant of the facts which are most important to a proper understanding of this question, and which show that his confidence in Mr. Webster is misplaced. It was by the advice, if not at the suggestion, of Mr. Webster himself that the resolution of last session, which "B" censures as injurious and dangerous in its tendencies, was introduced. And Mr. FORT's resolution of sympathy and welcome at this session was also introduced by the advice, or at the suggestion, of Mr. Webster. We would also suggest to "B" that Kossuth was liberated and sent here by the interposition of the British government, which has its own purposes to serve by the excitement and sympathy which he thinks so dangerous. And we may venture to assume, considering the entire cordial between Mr. Webster and Sir H. Bulwer, that the latter recommended to Mr. Webster the measures which Mr. W. recommended to Mr. FORT.

As the editors of the Intelligencer must be aware of these facts, we are somewhat surprised at the sly rebuke which they minister to Mr. Webster by the commendatory notice with which they publish "B's" communication. They have generally been supposed to have very strong British affinities themselves, but it seems that even they cannot go the length of Mr. Webster's tendencies in that direction. They say:

"The great question is now opened of permitting foreign influence from any quarter to be introduced into the councils of this country. This was a danger most intensely deprecated by Washington in his Farewell Address, in view of a recent attempt to entice it in the United States. All such attempts, now and ever, ought to be resisted argumentatively and unflinchingly, but firmly and decisively. No room ought to be left for misapprehension of the sense of the United States on that question."

It is gratifying to hear the Intelligencer speaking out in this way. We would like also to have its views as to the joint intervention of France and England in relation to Cuba, and of the joint intervention of France, England, and the United States to aid the black Emperor Soutouque to prohibit the immigration of whites to the neighboring Dominican republic. Does the Intelligencer disapprove of Mr. Webster's abandonment of the Monroe doctrine, as well as of his departure from the old doctrine of non-intervention in European affairs?

We learn that the steamer Osceola, for Norfolk, could not leave her wharf this morning, on account of the ice.

A STATE SENATOR ARRESTED.—The grand jury in the United States Court of Indiana, in session at Indianapolis, has found a true bill against J. S. Heeter, Senator from the counties of Monroe and Brown, and editor of the Bloomington Reporter, for forging papers to obtain land warrants.

The Cincinnati Commercial says there is a man in that city who has buried three wives and two children, all within the brief space of three months! And it has reason to know, too, that he will be married again before Christmas.

POSTSCRIPT!

[Despatched to the American Telegraph.]

Northern Markets.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 20—2 p. m.

The Baltimore and Northern markets are not materially changed. Breadstuffs are less firm.

Arrival of the Europa at Halifax.

We learn that the steamer Europa, now due at New York, put into Halifax this morning in consequence of foul weather, being slightly disabled. Her news is not yet received.

From Jamaica.

HALIFAX, N. S., Dec. 19.

Advices have been received from Jamaica to November 20th. Gov. Gray's speech to the legislature had given great offence to both branches.

The cholera was extending its ravages, the peasantry in some localities being swept off at the rate of forty per day.

Welcome to Kossuth.

Boston, Dec. 19.

The City Council last night passed unanimously a resolution tendering the hospitality of the city to Kossuth.

A thief snatched \$5,000 in gold from the counter of Ellis, a banker, No. 16 State street, and fled. He was afterwards arrested, but the money was not found upon him.

Destructive Fire—Accident on the Ohio.

LOUISVILLE, Dec. 19.

Last night the tobacco warehouses of McClure & Browder, at Clarksburg, Tennessee, were destroyed by fire. Tobacco to the amount of \$9,000 was consumed, on which there was a partial insurance.

The pork-house of Chamberlin, with a number of adjacent buildings, was also destroyed, together with a large number of hogs, hard, &c. The total loss is \$50,000, upon which there is a partial insurance.

Two coal boats from Brownsville, Pennsylvania, were sunk at the head of Stewart's Island, in the Ohio river, and six persons were drowned. It is reported that many flat boats were sunk in the ice between Evansville and Paducah.

Condition of the Markets.

New York, Dec. 19.—Cotton: sales to-day of only 500 bales of cotton at 1/2 decline. The sales of flour have reached 8,000 bbls., at \$4.44@4.62 for State brands, and \$4.37@4.54 for Southern. Rye flour, \$3.25@3.37. Sales of 4,000 bushels Southern white wheat at 10 1/4. Sales of 10,000 bushels mixed corn at 69@69c. Rye 70c, and oats 45c. Sales of mess pork at \$15, and prime at \$13.50. Lard, 8 1/2@8 3/4. Mess beef, \$8.50@8.11. Sales of 325 bags Rio coffee at 8 1/2@8 3/4. Sales of 200 lbs. N. Orleans molasses at 29c. Sales of 150 tierces of rice at \$2.75@3.25. Whiskey, 22c. Stocks: United States 6's, 1867, have advanced 1/2, and Erie has advanced 3/4.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 19.—Hogs are firm. Sales of 4,000 at \$4.78. Provisions are unchanged, but are generally held for a further advance.

The weather is cloudy and moderating. Navigation continues closed.

The flour market continues firm, as the stock on sale is small and the supplies have materially fallen off.

There is but little wheat offering, and prices tend upward. We quote red at 87 1/2@89c, and white at 95@96c, per bushel. The last sale of rye was at 72c. Corn is scarce, a lot of yellow in store sold at 61c. But a few oats offering. We quote southern at 26 and Pennsylvania at 27c, per bushel.

Kossuth's Visit to Washington.

A despatch dated at New York, yesterday, informs us that Mr. Hunter, Chief Clerk of the State Department, had presented to Kossuth a certified copy of the Congress resolutions of welcome, and also a private letter from Mr. Webster. After reading the resolutions and letter, Kossuth remarked, with much emotion, that he felt highly honored by this mark of attention, and that he esteemed it the most signal distinction that could be conferred upon an individual. His engagements in Philadelphia and Baltimore would detain him during the ensuing week, but he hoped on next Monday week to be in Washington, to express his thanks in person.

JENNY LIND sang her last song in Philadelphia last night. We want to hear her in this city once more. Can't she come? By the way, the Sun quarrels with Jenny, and says she is cross, and stingy, and goes off in a huff. Who would be a popular pet, to be toyed with as a mouse is by a cat, and then claved to pieces in very viciousness, when the feline public grows weary or becomes jealous?

THE CALIFORNIA NEWS.—We gave yesterday in our telegraphic despatches the burden of the news by the Webster. A subsequent despatch from New York states that the most prominent topic of discussion in California is the proposed division of the State. Many believe that slavery must be introduced into Southern California.

NEW LAW FIRM AND AGENCY.—The Hon. RICHARD M. YOUNG and J. McNEAL LATHAM, esq.—as will be perceived by their card in today's Telegraph—are associated together in the practice of the legal profession, the prosecution of claims, &c. A word of commendation can in this case hardly be necessary. The high character, ample experience, and ability of Judge Young are known to the whole country; and Mr. Latham brings to his aid the ardent, zeal, energy and industry that have in a brief period, since his removal from the Old Dominion to this city, secured for him a prominent position in the courts of the District.

Miss Heron is playing at Mr. Marshall's National Theatre, in Washington city.—Ech.

And well she plays, too.

CAUTION TO BOYS.—Little Selby, aged about six years, a son of Mr. Selby Parker, of this city, ventured upon the ice in the canal in this city to-day, and soon made a false step and popped under. Joseph Crider, a lad belonging to the office, happened to hear the noise made by the little fellow on coming up after his first dive, and fortunately succeeded in rescuing him.

A Temperance Tract for the Holidays will be distributed to the sales at Temperance Hall on Sunday night. The tract, and addresses commendatory of the drinking customs of the times delivered. All are invited to attend.

GEO. SAYVIG, President F. T. S.

Rev. Mr. CLEMM will preach in McKendree Chapel to-morrow (Sunday) morning, at 11 o'clock, and take up a collection in behalf of the Education Fund of the Baltimore Conference. [dec 20]

Fourth Presbyterian Church, 9th street.—The Rev. JAMES GALLAGHER will preach in this church to-morrow evening, services to commence at 7 o'clock. [dec 20]

St. Paul's Lutheran Church.—Evening service will be held in this church at 7 o'clock, on Sabbath, at 7 p. m. Also, services at 11 a. m. [dec 20]

E street Baptist Church.—The Rev. T. D. ANDERSON will preach in this church to-morrow morning, and the Rev. Dr. CUSHMAN will preach in the evening, at 7 o'clock. [dec 20]

Notice.—"I am not come to send peace, but a sword," will be the subject of a discourse by the Rev. GUNNELL, of New York, in the First Congregational Church, on Fifth street, on Sabbath, at 11 o'clock a. m. Rev. Dr. EVANS will preach at the same place at 7 1/2 o'clock p. m. [dec 20]

First Baptist Church, Tenth street.—The pastor, Rev. S. F. HILL, will preach in this church to-morrow at 11 o'clock a. m., and 3 o'clock p. m. [dec 20]

Unitarian Church.—The Rev. ORVILLE DEWEY, settled pastor of this church, will preach every Sabbath morning at 11 o'clock. [dec 20]

The Rev. John A. Collins will, by Divine permission, preach in the Wesley Chapel, corner of 2 and 11th streets, on Sabbath morning next at 11 o'clock. [dec 20]

Methodist Episcopal Church South, on Eighth street, opposite the Post Office, will, on Sabbath, at 7 o'clock p. m. Subject in the evening: The Christian Rest. The public are cordially invited to attend. Seats free. [dec 20]

Brief Lectures on special subjects.—The last of the course will be delivered at the 9th street Methodist Protestant Church on to-morrow evening, at 7 o'clock, by the Pastor. Subject: HEAVEN. [dec 20]

Foundry Church.—The Wesleyan Benevolent Tract Society of Washington City will hold a public meeting at the Foundry Church, corner of 14th and G streets, on Monday evening, the 22d instant, at 7 o'clock. The meeting will be addressed by the Rev. Mr. Mason, collector of the American Tract Society; and several members of the Association will narrate interesting incidents connected with their labors as tract distributors. A collection will be taken in aid of the benevolent objects of the Society. All are invited to attend. A. GRAY, [dec 20]

Columbia Typographical Society.—Under a suspension of an adjourned meeting of the Society called for this evening. No action of the Society having been had to that effect, and the constitutional provision prescribing the manner of holding special or called meetings not having been complied with, there will be no meeting of the Society this evening. By order of the President, W. M. E. NOTT, Recording Secretary. [dec 20]

A CARD.—The undersigned, the jurors who tried the case of the United States vs. SAMUEL STEVENS, charged with the use of an assignment of a Land Warrant, are informed by his counsel that he has been acquitted under the impression that he was acquitted upon the plea of the Statute of Limitations. To correct this erroneous impression, we hereby certify that he would have been acquitted without the plea of the Statute. [dec 20]

David Koons, Joseph Whitney, Thomas P. Morgan, Anthony L. Key, Henry D. Gunnell, Tervence Drury, Samuel Perkins, Robert M. Harrison. [dec 20]

LADIES' FAIR! The ladies of Grace Church congregation, (Island), the Rev. ALFRED HOLMES, pastor, will hold a fair for the sale of fancy and useful articles during all of the coming week, at Potomac Hall, corner of Maryland avenue and 11th street, Island. [dec 20]

The proceeds of the Fair will be devoted in aid of the erection of Grace Church. [dec 20]

The music given evening will be under the control of Prof. Morgan, conductor of the Light Infantry Band. [dec 20]

JUST RECEIVED. An excellent assortment of New Books suitable for family presents.—The following are a selection of the American S. S. Union—Attractive Books for the young. All who wish to make a suitable Christmas present will do well to purchase a few of these handsome books. [dec 20]

LEATHER! LEATHER!! THE SUBURBAN LEATHERS, (Island), the Rev. ALFRED HOLMES, pastor, will hold a fair for the sale of fancy and useful articles during all of the coming week, at Potomac Hall, corner of Maryland avenue and 11th street, Island. [dec 20]

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